61/2132

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HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Hillier, et al.

Examiner:

B. Lanier

Serial No .:

09/328,066

Art Unit: 2132

Filing Date:

June 8, 1999

Our File No.: 10500.99.0071

Confirmation No.:

6282

Docket No.:

0500.01326

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE COMMUNICATIONS

USING THIRD-PARTY KEY PROVIDER

Box Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

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Date

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

APR 1 0 7003

Dear Sir:

Technology Center 2100

In response to the Office Action dated January 30, 2003, Applicants respectfully submits the following amendment and response.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 5, 12 and 34 to read as follows:

(Amended) The method of claim 1 including the steps of:

generating cipher text by encrypting data with a first cryptographic key (Ks1) by the first party;

providing the cipher text to the second party;

encrypting the cryptographic key (Ks1) using a second encryption key associated with the second party to produce a first key package; and

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